

## MINIMIZE DANGER OF EXTENSIVE FIRES

Suggestions From Manager  
of Board of Underwriters.

### CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS

Precautions to Be Observed in Internal  
Arrangement and Providing Means  
to Extinguish Flames.

In view of the fact that the National Board of Fire Underwriters is urging a general advance of insurance rates upon risks in the congested districts of large cities, it is interesting to know that the suggestions contained in this circular are not likely to have any bearing on conditions in Washington. Whatever justice may underlie the suggestions made by the national board as applied to cities like New York, Chicago, Baltimore, and others with large commercial interests, Washington is exempt from their application, because, fortunately, this city contains no such congested districts as are to be found in commercial centers. Not only this, but our exceptionally wide streets and the absence of skyscrapers relieve Washington of an eminent degree of the danger of such conflagrations as that which recently laid the business portion of Baltimore in ashes.

Nevertheless, it is to be noted that here, as elsewhere, the Baltimore fire has given rise to an investigation by the local boards of underwriters, concerning the conditions which should be observed to minimize the danger of fire and also the spread of flames. A. N. Hamilton, manager of the local board of underwriters, has indicated, in response to a request from The Times, what, in his opinion, is necessary in the construction of buildings used for mercantile office, or hotel purposes to minimize insurance rates. He lays down the following conditions:

#### Details of Construction.

In buildings of ordinary construction, a one-story building should not have walls of less than twelve inches; two-story buildings, sixteen inches for the first floor and twelve inches for the second; three-story buildings, sixteen, sixteen, and twelve inches; four-story, twenty, sixteen, sixteen, and twelve inches and five story, twenty-four, twenty, sixteen, sixteen, and twelve inches. Party walls should be four inches thicker at each floor. Parapet walls should rise not less than eighteen inches above the roof and be capped, and should not be less than twelve inches thick. Chimneys should be built from the ground up of brick and their walls should not be less than eight inches in thickness and lined with terra cotta. Roofs should be of metal, tile or slate, and should be supported by iron brackets, or furnaces, or stoves properly installed. Boilers for furnishing power to be installed in a fireproof room connection with which ought to be cut off with a standard automatic fire door. For lighting, coal gas or electricity, properly installed under the rules of the national code should be used. Skylights should be of wire glass set in metal frames, or glass not less than one-half of an inch in thickness set in metal frames and covered with wire netting not less than four inches above the glass and to extend not less than four inches over all the wire to be not less than No. 12 gauge and the mesh not over one inch.

#### Internal Floor Protection.

For internal floor protection there should be stand pipe, pails, and extinguishers. The stand pipe should be not less than two inches in diameter, under constant water pressure, and equipped with hose not less than one and one-half inches at each story, and of sufficient length to reach any part of the floor; as an alternative six pails and one filled cask for each 5,000 square feet of floor area, or two approved automatic fire extinguishers.

These are some of the many things to be considered in buildings, but there are others of equal importance not to be overlooked. All electrical installation should be made under the national code of rules, properly inspected and certified before the current is turned on. Swinging gas brackets should never be allowed in any building; they have proved to be one of the worst curses ever invented not only for owners but for insurance companies. Stationary brackets should be used at all times, and so arranged as not to come nearer than twenty inches to any wall or ceiling or inflammable fabric without being protected with a metal shield. To protect buildings from unnecessary exposure all windows should be protected with what is known as fire shutters, made of two thicknesses of 3/4-inch matched material and covered with tin as prescribed by the rules of the national code covering fire doors and shutters. The same rules should apply to larger dwellings of more than two stories in height, except that fire shutters are not needed on windows unless exposed by some special hazard.

The importance of the suggestions here advanced by Mr. Hamilton will be apparent to all persons having large property interests of a character touched by him, and they will be interested to know that Mr. Hamilton promises to devote some further attention to the question of providing proper facilities for the extinguishing of fires.

#### Permit for Apartment House.

Bates Warren has obtained a permit for the erection of his apartment house at the southwest corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Thirtieth Street northwest, the construction of which he has had under contemplation for some time. Mr. Warren originally intended to have a seven-story structure, but a change in the building regulations with reference to the width of streets made it necessary for him to change his plan. The permit just issued is for a five-

## "Hot, Roasted Peanuts" May Soon Be a Luxury

Advance in Price of Raw Product Has Caused  
Decline in Sales--Exports to Foreign  
Countries Also Fall Off.

What it at the bottom of the peanut boom? Wholesale and retail dealers in peanuts will thank the man who solves this problem. Three possible solutions have already been offered, but there is no way to tell which, if either, is correct.

At first the advance in price was ascribed to an agreement among the cleaners and packers, who purchase the raw product and prepare it for the wholesale dealer. Next it was believed the prosperity of Southern farmers during the cotton boom had prompted them to fix any price they desired for peanuts, while the opinion now prevails generally that the advance has been due to smallness of the last crop.

#### Grades and Prices.

Three grades of peanuts are in general use, and are known as first, second, and third grade. One year ago the first grade sold at 3 cents a pound, the second grade at 4 cents, and the third at 5 1/2 cents. Today the respective prices are 4 1/2, 5 1/2, and 7, an average increase of the cents a pound for the nut. This advance in the price of the raw product has resulted in an increase in the price

of the roasted nut of about 25 cents a bushel. At this rate the peanut will soon become a luxury.

The peanut business, from both a wholesale and retail point of view, has been decidedly poor this year. The quality of the nut has not been up to the standard, the sales have fallen greatly as compared to those of previous years, and the prices are higher than they have been for thirty years or more. Exports to foreign countries have also fallen off at an enormous rate, and in France, where peanuts are used to make "pure olive oil," the pressers have been compelled to use the African product.

#### Dealers Apathetic.

The cold weather has also had a tendency to cause a general apathy of business among wholesale and retail dealers. Street vendors depend entirely upon the weather for disposing of their stock, and as these merchants handle a large portion of peanut business, the loss generally has been more or less severe. In Washington the average consumption of peanuts during the summer is about 15,000 bushels. The business is increased during the warm weather by the heavy sales at places of amusement, such as the zoological gardens and river resorts.

## ST. PAUL REPORTS HORSES SCARCE

Dealers Find Difficulty in  
Supplying Demand.

### PREDICT RISE IN PRICES

Will Require Several Years for Supply  
to Overtake Demand--Fine Market  
for Good Animals.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 8.—There is great scarcity of horses, according to local dealers.

"During the past four years we have felt the decrease in the supply of horses," said one, "and now we have great difficulty in obtaining enough to meet demands. A few years ago, when the bicycles first became a rage, horses could be had almost for the asking. A good team could be bought for \$100 to \$150. But then the farmers and stockmen from whom we get our supply saw there was no profit in raising horses, and the result is that now there is a scarcity. A good team costs now as much as \$500."

"As soon as the spring opens up the price of horses is going to the top now. The reason is the same that prevailed during the war times. There are few horses on the market. They have been sold so cheap during the past few years that everyone has gone on the business of raising them. That is always the way."

"All quit at once and we are just beginning to feel the effects of the decision the farmers reached a few years ago. A horse must be four years old before it is any good, and it will take some time before the present scarcity is remedied. Horses will be high and scarce for some time to come."

### EX-GOVERNOR CRANE GUEST OF PRESIDENT

Ex-Governor Winthrop Murray Crane, of Massachusetts, was a guest of the President at luncheon yesterday. A general discussion of national politics was held. While it is settled that Mr. Crane will not take the national chairmanship, he will be actively identified with the campaign. No choice of a national chairman is looked for until the time for the convention draws near.

story building, to be constructed of brick and stone and to cost about \$45,000.

#### Real Estate Transfers.

De Fries Street northwest, between First and North Capitol Streets—David Moore and Elizabeth L. White, trustees, to Carl H. and F. Henrietta Ockershausen, lot 1, square 623, \$1,700.

Eloventh Street northwest, between U and V Streets—William H. Kaiser et ux, to John George Kaiser, part lots 4 and 5, square 322, \$10.

Tenth Street northwest, between O and P Streets—Mary E. Eastman et al, to Daisy E. von Briesen, lot 24, square 326, \$10.

Moore & Barbour's second addition to Washington—Annie M. Barbour to Alexander Miller, lot 16, block 7, \$10.

Columbia Heights—Elizabeth C. Ross et ux, David M., to Charles W. Pence, lots 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, and 34, block 21, \$10.

Pleasant Plains—Same to same, lot 6, block 18.

206 Arthur Place northwest—Charles A. Bickel et ux, to Angelo Maggio and Francesco Antonio Fucci, lot 34, square 623, \$100.

Eighth Street northwest, between N and O Streets—William H. Moore to Henry E. Hallday, part lot 25, square 299, \$10.

Estate of William Holmes—Zachariah T. Sowers et al, trustees, to Charlotte M. Dalley, lot 13, \$10.

40 H Street northwest—Bartholomew Murphy et al, to John Murphy, lot 17, square 676, \$10.

40 De Fries Street northwest—David Moore et al, trustees, to George Wick, lot 68, square 622, \$1,700.

Sixth Street northeast, between East Capitol and A Streets—William M. Deck et ux, to Martha M. McKenna, part original lot 11, square 840, \$4,500.

#### AT HIS BROTHER'S FUNERAL.

Justice Job Barnard, of the Supreme Court of the District, left Washington last night for Porter county, Ind., to attend the funeral of his brother, Nelson, which is to be held there tomorrow. Circuit Court No. 1, over which Justice Barnard presides, has been adjourned until Monday.

## SEARCH OF CAVE FOR HIDDEN GOLD

Expedition Formed to Hunt  
Big Treasure.

### STORY OF A BANDIT CAPTAIN

Partially Revealed His Secret to  
Friends in Illinois Town—Gold  
on Mexican Border.

RED BUD, Ill., March 8.—A party will be organized here to make a search of a cave for the treasure tradition says is buried there.

"The story has its beginning in 1860, when a band of outlaws and smugglers, under the guidance of Captain Martinez, were flourishing near the Mexican border line. One night the captain overheard three of his men planning to put him out of the way and make one of their number captain in his stead.

Fearing to punish these men, the most desperate of his band, the captain slipped away in the night, taking with him a great amount in gold bullion and coins. Making his way to the Mississippi River, he started toward its source. Opposite the town of Fort Charters he espied a cave in the bluffs some distance above the base.

#### Stranger in Town.

The residents of the little town awoke one morning and found the stranger in their midst. Martinez made friends with no one, but one winter he slipped on the ice and broke his leg. After that he became sociable with those who attended him.

After becoming acquainted with his neighbors he began to indulge in intoxicants, and when in his "cup" he would tell bits of his life. Finally, falling ill and being told that death was near, he told the story of his life, and said that his treasure could be found in a secret recess in the cave.

Soon after his death and burial the citizens made a thorough search of the cave, but to no avail. Since then searching parties have gone there at intervals, but have failed to find the gold bars, said to be worth \$10,000 each.

The new searching party has some additional information which may disclose the hiding place of the fortune.

## ELIZABETH HARTERT AGAIN IN THE TOILS

Escaped From Prison, Where She Had  
Been Sent for Engaging in Matrimonial Bureau Swindle.

BERLIN, March 8.—The woman Elizabeth Hartert, who in 1903, after a sensational trial was convicted in Berlin and sentenced to thirteen months' imprisonment for matrimonial frauds, and only served four months of her sentence, has been arrested on the Belgian frontier. In her elegant rooms in Magdeburg she "plucked" numerous gentlemen in society, among them an army officer, from whom she secured \$7,500.

After serving part of her sentence she was transferred to the prison hospital, from which she escaped with the complicity of a minor official. A warrant was issued for her arrest and now she has been captured on the frontier while trying to cross. She will be returned to prison to serve the remainder of her term.

## The Clergy Like It

Dr Agnew's Catarrhal Powder Cures  
All Creeds. It Relieves In 10 Minutes

Here are a few names of clergymen of different creeds who are firm believers in Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder to "live up to the preaching" in all it claims: Bishop Sweetman, Rev. Dr. Langtry (Episcopalian); Rev. Dr. Withrow and Rev. Dr. Chambers (Methodist); and Dr. Newman, all of Toronto, Canada. Copies of their personal letters for the asking.

Dr. Agnew's Ointment relieves piles in a day.

## "GROSS NEGLECT" AT EMERGENCY

Substance of Report Upon  
the Offutt Case.

### PHYSICIANS WERE CARELESS

The Patient Was Unattended for  
Twenty-five Hours With a Fracture  
of the Skull.

For fourteen hours "the treatment of the man was marked by gross neglect," is the finding of the committee appointed by the Board of Charities at the instigation of the District Commissioners to investigate the treatment given Henry T. Offutt, while a patient at the Emergency Hospital during the first week of last January.

The investigation was ordered in view of the coroner's jury on the case finding that Offutt, while suffering at the institution with fracture of the skull, did not receive the proper care for his injuries.

The report of the committee, consisting of John Joy Edson and Charles P. Neill, submitted to the District Commissioners this morning, sets forth a surprising disclosure of the treatment really given the man in the first fourteen hours of his stay at the hospital.

After describing how he was carried to the Emergency Hospital as the result of a fall from a street car at the corner of Seventeenth and H Streets on the evening of January 5, the course pursued by the resident and chief resident physicians of the institution is described in part as follows:

#### Suspected a Fracture.

"The presence of a fracture was, according to their testimony, suspected by each, but they were unable to determine it with certainty, as specific symptoms, for which they looked, were absent. Erroneously assuming it to be a case of concussion only, and that the effects might wear off during the night, and the man be able to leave early in the morning, the physician in charge of the case had the man placed in a bed in the 'emergency room,' without having been undressed, where he remained until late in the morning.

"The 'emergency room' is on the ground floor of the building and is not under the supervision of the night nurse on duty at the hospital. From 8 o'clock at night, therefore, until 8 o'clock in the morning no nurse came near the man. The physician in charge of the case, according to his testimony, did go into the room at intervals of a half hour, up to 2 o'clock; but during the rest of the night he was left without the attention of either doctor or nurse."

#### Treated by Dr. Carr.

About 9 o'clock the following morning the patient was undressed, bathed and put to bed, and at 11 o'clock Dr. Carr, a member of the visiting staff of the hospital, saw the case, and immediately pronounced the injury in the man's head to be fracture of the skull. From that time on Offutt was treated by Dr. Carr. The committee explains that it was not deemed necessary to inquire into the case after he obtained charge of it, as his standing in the profession is sufficient proof that everything suitable was done for Offutt's relief.

Commissioner Macfarland, to whom the report was submitted today, will refer it to the Board of Commissioners.

### DICK'S CREDENTIALS PRESENTED IN SENATE

The credentials of Senator-elect Charles Dick of Ohio, to succeed the late Marcus A. Hanna, have been presented in the Senate by Senator Foraker. The credentials cover both the unexpired term and the full term of six years from March 4, 1905.

The document consists of an embossed leather case tied with four red ribbons an inch wide.

Inside are two large folios of four pages each, one for each term to which General Dick has been elected. Opposite Governor Herrick's signature is the seal of Ohio impressed on silk, with the two ends of a purple ribbon fastened underneath.

## Akron Inventor Makes Wonderful Timepiece

Clock Records Hours in Different Cities, Registers Changes in Temperature and Humidity, and Shows Historical Pictures.

CLEVELAND, March 8.—With a scroll saw, plane, a hammer, and a common pocket knife a one-armed cripple has made the most remarkable clock in the world.

The maker is Marvin Shearer of Akron, Ohio. He is a scenic artist, but his hobby is mechanics. His pet project for the last fifteen years has been to make a surpassingly wonderful timepiece, but it was not until disabled for daily work at his profession that he found the time.

The clock is twelve feet four inches high, more than four feet wide, and almost three feet deep. It contains 4,131 pieces of wood of thirty-seven different kinds. There are 192 pictures in or on the clock, all of which Mr. Shearer painted. The motive power consists of a water pump having a capacity of 200 gallons per hour, a one-half horse power electric motor, and several other electric appliances.

The clock weighs 850 pounds, and is constructed in three sections. On the face of the top section are nine dials, four of which give the time in three foreign cities and four American cities; one the local standard time, the other, the calendar dial, indicating all the changes of the moon, the month, the day and date. The weather signals are translated by signal flags on a revolving staff directly in front of the calendar dial. Thermometers, barometers, and

hydrometers, each tells its tale, and around the dials pieces of wood from each State, Territory, and foreign possession in the Union are arranged, decorated with the coat-of-arms of each.

On either side of the clock dial can be seen every man-of-war in the United States Navy, arranged according to their class and speed, followed by the different squadrons in their official order. Underneath the navy is shown a passion history of Christ. All these pictures have their stated times of appearing, passing from view behind a screen.

The middle section is by far the most beautiful. In the extreme top is located a miniature Niagara Falls, over which 130 gallons of water fall every hour. Both the American and Horseshoe Falls are shown with Goat Island in the foreground, and the sparkling water is illuminated by colored and changing electric lights, making a most effective water display.

At each hour, as the clock strikes, the figures of Uncle Sam and the Goddess of Liberty appear from an elevator at the right, walk in front of the American Falls, pass through a gate that opens automatically, descend a flight of steps, continue their walk around the front of the falls, where they turn and bow to the audience. Behind glass plates pass in review pictures of all the Presidents of the United States, and on each a silhouette of Washington shows.

## CANAL COMPANY HAS POWER TO TRANSFER

Attorney General Knox Settled That  
Question a Year and a  
Half Ago.

Statements that the new Panama Canal Company has not the power to transfer title to the canal property are not taken seriously at the Department of Justice. Attorney General Knox holds there is no foundation for such statements, and the department is giving no attention to the theory that all the new company can transfer is a contract with the liquidator or receiver of the old company, whereby the old company was to get 60 per cent of the net earnings of the completed canal.

As a matter of fact, this whole problem was threshed over at length a year and a half ago, when the Attorney General, in an opinion to the President, reported on his examination of the title proposed to be given by the company. This report was made after an exhaustive inquiry in Paris by Assistant Attorney General Russell.

In the report to the President, Attorney General Knox held that the new company could transfer absolute title to the canal property. He showed that in 1894 the canal itself was sold to the new company, and that the receiver had the power to sell, dispose of or release for a cash consideration the 60 per cent of expected earnings for which the old company sold the canal to the new company in 1894.

There has been no change in the situation since then to warrant the statement that the transfer of the title to the property cannot be made by the new company. The Department of Justice is satisfied on that point.

#### OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

At the annual meeting of the Prospective Hill Cemetery Association, the following officers and directors were elected: President, William Stiebeling; secretary, William Martin; treasurer, J. A. Griesbauer; directors, Theodore Plitt, George Brickwedde, J. J. Appalg, George C. Rick, and William Eldrich.

## FATHER P. J. O'CONNELL APPOINTED PASTOR

Will Succeed the Rev. John B. Manley  
at St. Vincent de Paul's  
Church.

The Rev. P. J. O'Connell, assistant pastor of St. Stephen's Church, Twenty-fifth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, has been appointed pastor of St. Vincent de Paul's Church, South Capitol and M Streets, to succeed the Rev. John B. Manley.

St. Vincent's Parish was organized in 1902, and covers much of the territory formerly included in St. Peter's. Since its beginning, the parish has succeeded in a most gratifying sense, and has given Catholic residents of that portion of the city the opportunity to attend services where, in many instances, they were unable to do so because of the great distance to St. Peter's and no car facilities.

Father O'Connell has been selected by the cardinal to succeed Father Manley, in view of his fine executive ability. Since he went to St. Stephen's, some years ago, he has made a legion of friends in that parish and in other parts of Washington. His promotion to a pastorate will undoubtedly be most gratifying to these friends.

### CAPTAIN BRETT DEAD IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Capt. James E. Brett, U. S. A., retired, who has been serving as professor of military science and tactics at the Oklahoma State Military Institute for several months, died at Oklahoma City on March 5.

Captain Brett was a native of North Carolina, who entered the service as a private in 1870. He attained the grade of captain in 1894 and was retired a year later for disability incurred in line of duty.

#### BANK NOTES REDEEMED.

National bank notes received yesterday for redemption amounted to \$73,551. Government receipts and expenditures were: Internal Revenue, \$1,265,002; customs, \$1,012,737; miscellaneous, \$80,380; expenditures, \$1,950,000.

## Good for 50c

This Coupon and \$4.50 Entitles  
BEARER TO ONE TON BEST QUALITY

## NO. 2 NUT COAL

ONLY A LIMITED AMOUNT.

WM. J. ZEH,

702 11th St. n. w. 6th and K Sts. n. w.  
1212 14th St. n. w. 12th and D Sts. s. w.  
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## COFFEE.....

Great Atlantic  
and Pacific  
Tea Company,  
Cor. Seventh and E  
Streets.

You cannot buy our  
Congressional  
Coffee from your  
grocer, but we have  
a branch store  
near your home.

35c lb.

## Something Else Coming Watch for "?"

"IT"

Is  
Very  
Interesting

It Will  
Pay  
to  
Watch  
THE  
TIMES

It Is  
"IT"

## OF COURSE YOU KNOW

### Uneeda Biscuit.

The soda cracker that made the nation hungry.

If not it's time you got acquainted.

Uneeda Biscuit will agree with you,

and you'll agree with them.

You will find them as good to-morrow as they

are to-day; as good next week as they are to-morrow.

Royal purple and white. That's the package.

You should know

# Uneeda Biscuit

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY